

In the Claims:

Amend the claims as follows:

We claim:

1. A method for operating a data processing system with copy protection for user programs, comprising the steps of:

directly connecting the data processing system to a copy protection identification via a hardware module,

providing a plurality of application programs as well as an installation program and a cryptoprogram on a storage medium intended for the user,

communicating a user identification that identifies the user, an encrypted product identification that references at least one user program and a copy protection identification to the user, the communicated copy protection identification corresponding to the copy protection identification connected via the hardware module,

when processing the installation program on the data processing system, inputting the communicated copy protection identification, the user identification and the product identification, providing each user program with a predetermined memory area into which the copy protection identification can be entered,

comparing by the installation program the copy protection identification that has been input to the copy protection identification connected with the hardware module and,

given coincidence, deciphering the encrypted product identification upon utilization of the user identification as key, and

identifying the user program referenced in the product identification,

loading the selected user program from the storage medium into a memory area of the data processing system,
entering by the cryptoprogram the copy protection identification into the predetermined memory area of the selected user program, and
before running the selected application program, comparing the copy protection identification contained in the predetermined memory area to the copy protection identification directly connected with the data processing system via the hardware module, and
running the user program only given coincidence.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein,
when running the installation program, further running of the installation program is only continued after the comparison of the copy protection identification that has been input to the copy protection identification connected with the data processing system given coincidence.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the product identification also contains the copy protection identification, and further comprising the step of:
comparing said copy protection identification to the copy protection identification connected with the data processing system, and
continuing running of the further program steps only given coincidence.

4. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
referencing a plurality of application programs in said product identification;

determining a list of said application programs upon decipherment of the product identification;
and

checking said list for correctness.

5. A method according to claim 4 , wherein said step of checking said list for correctness ensues on a basis of a checksum check.

6. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:
accepting a user selection from the application programs of the list; and
loading only the selected application programs from the storage medium into the memory area of the data processing system.

7. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:
undertaking an authentication between the installation program and the key program when the key program is called.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said authentication is implemented according to a challenge-response protocol.

9. A method according to claim 1, wherein product identification is compressed according to a static Huffman-Baum method.

10. A method according to claim 1, wherein the copy protection identification connected with the data processing system is situated on a hardware module that is permanently connected to the data processing system.

11. A method according to claim 10 the hardware module is a dongle that is pluggably connected to at least one of a parallel interface and a serial interface and a USB bus of the data processing system; and said dongle including the copy protection identification.

In the Abstract:

Add the new abstract as follows:

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method for operating a computer with copy protection for user programs provides that the user receives a copy protection identification, a user identification and an encrypted product identification. The product identification is decoded using the user identification as a key, so that the desired user program is determined. The key program inputs an encrypted sequence formed on the basis of the copy protection identification into a storage area of the selected user program. The user program is executed only if the copy protection identification of the computer matches the copy protection identification of the user program.